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Area community welcomes Jacquie Johnson

Summary: Dr. Jacqueline Johnson has assumed her role as UMM chancellor. "The moment I stepped on campus, I knew that this would be a place where I would love to live and work. I look forward to working with and learning from campus and community members."

(August 1, 2006)-The University of Minnesota, Morris and surrounding communities are welcoming a new chief executive this week. Dr. Jacqueline Johnson has assumed her role as the chancellor at UMM. Johnson replaces Sam Schuman who retired as UMM chancellor.

"Dr. Johnson has a proven track record as a strong leader with a deep commitment to liberal arts education," said University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks in making the announcement of Johnson's appointment in May following a national search. "Her demonstrated leadership ability, administrative and academic experience and unique understanding of the regional and national reputation of the Morris campus and the University's mission made her the top candidate for this position."

"I have long known about and admired the University of Minnesota, Morris for its well-served reputation as one of the best public liberal arts colleges in the country," said Johnson. "And the moment I stepped on campus, I knew that this would be a place where I would love to live and work. Imagine my delight, then, when I learned that I had been asked to serve as UMM's fifth chancellor. I look forward to working with and learning from campus and community members."

Johnson comes to UMM from Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa, where she served as vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty. Previously, she served as vice president for academic affairs at St. Martin's College in Washington and chair of the department of anthropology and sociology at Grand Valley State University in Michigan. Johnson holds a doctorate in sociology from Purdue University and a bachelor's degree from Macalester College, St. Paul.

Robert Jones, University senior vice president for system administration, said Johnson has a strong record of success in securing research funding, public support and private gifts to support key strategic initiatives articulating the value of a liberal arts education demonstrating positive educational outcomes creating diverse environments and promoting campus civic engagement and responsibility to the surrounding community and region.

Nancy Carpenter, a UMM associate professor of chemistry and search committee chair, said, "Dr. Johnson will be, like Dr. Schuman before her, a passionate advocate for our liberal arts mission. We're looking forward to her leadership in this new era in our history."

"I join the campus community in offering the warmest and most optimistic greetings to Chancellor Johnson as she begins her time in our community. I think she is a splendid selection, and am confident that our college will continue to thrive with her leadership," said former UMM chancellor Sam Schuman.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.